

# Tournament Games Quarterly



Fall Issue, 1981

## The Pre-Game Show...

### CHICAGO HOSTS \$400,000 MULTI-SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Tournament Games and Atari® 1981 World Championships will be held October 29, 30, 31 and November 1, 1981 at the Exopcenter/Chicago. The competition will offer events in five different sports and a total of \$400,000 in cash and prizes.

The five sports include Tournament Soccer (foosball), Tournament Mark Darts (darts), Tournament Eight Ball (pool), Tournament Hockey (table hockey) and a competition on the new Atari Centipede video game.

Complete prize breakdowns and tournament details can be found in the center section of this Quarterly in the form of a pull-out Player's Guide.

The dollar value for cash and prizes to be given away in each sport is as follows:

Tournament Soccer .....	\$150,000
Tournament Eight Ball .....	100,000
Tournament Mark Darts .....	75,000
Tournament Hockey .....	25,000
Atari World Championships .....	50,000

"Chicago is the center of the game-playing population in the U.S.," commented Tournament Games president, Lee Peppard, "and the Exopcenter/Chicago offers ideal playing conditions for our first multi-sport World Championships. We believe we'll be bringing the excitement of the World Championships to the most players in the best possible facility."

The 1981 World Championships will coincide with the Amusement and Music Operators Association trade show, the largest annual convention in the coin industry, also to be held in Chicago.

### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AGREEMENT SIGNED BY TGI AND ATARI®

Tournament Games president, Lee Peppard, recently announced a working agreement between Tournament Games and Atari®, one of the world's leading manufacturers of video games. Tournament Games will promote and run a World Championship competition on one or more Atari video games in conjunction with the annual Tournament Games Spectacular.

Regarding the agreement, Atari Vice President of Marketing, Mr. Frank Ballouz, commented, "We recognize the value of tournament promotions for our products, and we also recognize the expertise of the people at Tournament Games in this area. We think it will be a great association."

Atari has played a major role in the current video game boom that is sweeping the nation, having produced the first major video game, Pong®, and one of the most successful video games ever, Asteroids®.

Cash and prizes totaling \$50,000 will be given away in the Atari World Championships during the weekend of the Tournament Games Spectacular, October 29, 30, 31, and November 1, 1981. (Complete tournament information can be found in the center section of this issue.)

### FOOSBALL FEATURE FILM PRODUCED

Hollywood... the name alone conjures up images of bright lights, celebrity superstars and movies upon movies. Throughout the course of the film industry, countless movies have been made covering every sports subject imaginable. From basketball, to skiing, to wrestling, the list goes on and on. Due to a major media breakthrough, foosball has been added to that long list with the soon to be released feature film, "Longshot."

(continued on page 14)



Photo by Randi Dickerson

The site of the tournament used for the filming of LONGSHOT'S foosball footage was jammed with enthusiastic foosers from across the country.

# THE ATARI \$50,000 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS BLOW UP A SPACE SATELLITE, DUST A SUPER TANK, SHOOT DOWN THE RED BARON, PULVERIZE A MEDIEVAL CASTLE, OR...?



New Asteroids Deluxe™, Battlezone™, Red Baron and Warlords™ are some of the incredible ATARI video games being featured in local tournaments leading up to the ATARI \$50,000.00 World Championships to be held October 29, 30, 31 and November 1 at the Expocenter in Chicago. It's the first national tournament for coin-operated games ever, and it's going to be fantastic because the games you'll be playing are fantastic.

#### The world's hottest action.

**Asteroids Deluxe** is the next generation Asteroids™ with new stuff that makes it faster, more challenging than ever—a new force field shield has replaced Hyperspace. Now the saucers shoot at you and the asteroids. There's a new "Killer Satellite" that breaks up when hit and launches guided missiles right at you. And there's a 3-D color playfield that's so realistic you'll feel like you're in deep space.

**Battlezone** is a video supertank battle fought in another dimension. You are commanding a tank using realistic controls, a Radar Warning device and all your skill to destroy enemy tanks and buzz bombs.

**Red Baron** is an actual video flying simulation. You're in the cockpit of a WWI biplane searching for the elusive Red Baron. He's coming right at you, guns chattering. You climb, bank, maneuver into firing position, let

go a burst of deadly tracers. He's hit, and dusted! Blimps and ground targets are also part of your mission.

**Warlords** is a full color video battle between knights and castles. A firebreathing dragon spits fireballs that you have to block with your shield, hold and catapult against your opponent's castle walls.

#### Win a free entry to the Atari World Championships

Official "Tournament Locations" in your area are holding five monthly High Score contests or five Double Elimination tournaments right now that you can enter to win a possible *free* entry to the finals in Chicago. (If your favorite place somehow isn't participating, nag him to get into it.)

These are only a few of the Atari games you'll be seeing between now and October 1 that may be selected\* to be used in the Championships finals. New games are coming to join the program. So play them all! Join the fun. Even if you don't win a local contest, the locals are a great way to test the limits of your skill, enjoy the excitement of tournament type competition or just practice for the big one.

It's exciting, worth big prizes and free. Don't miss out. Enter now.

For more facts fast, call toll-free  
800-426-8897.

**ATARI**  
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Bulletin: Centipede has been designated for use in the finals for the \$50,000.00 Atari World Championships in Chicago. Don't miss out on the action—256 Centipedes—

\*We'll let you know September 1, which games will be used in the Chicago Finals.



# First Quarter

TOURNAMENT MARK DARTS

## TOURNAMENT MARK DARTS — ON TARGET!!

by Karen Wright

Tournament Mark Darts is the 20th century version of the age old game of darts. Arachnid, Inc., located in Rockford, Illinois, is the manufacturer of the computerized, digital scoring dart game. In taverns across the country, the game is rapidly gaining popularity. Already there has been an estimated 2500 machines distributed nationwide.

The most revolutionary contribution Arachnid has made for the game is the development of the plastic tip dart. It totally eliminates accident, a definite risk with steel tip darts.

Arachnid was founded in the mid-1970's. Paul Beall, who bought the company five years ago, came along and streamlined operations, made design changes, and instilled his excitement for the game to everyone who would listen. Beall said he knew Arachnid darts would lend themselves to a broad audience. Unlike most sports, darts do not require a lot of room, and the participants need not be athletic to excel. It is a highly competitive game, yet very inexpensive.

Arachnid recently signed a working agreement with Tournament Games, Inc. of Seattle, Washington, the major promotor of foosball and pool tables, in the hopes of generating widespread interest through concentrated promotions.

Presently, three different variations can be played on the Tournament Mark Darts game; Count-Up, Cut-Throat, and the most popular, 301. In 301, each player begins with 301 points and works down toward zero. You must hit zero exactly which makes for some interesting strategy and precision shooting.

Tournament Mark Darts is rapidly becoming one of the most popular bar games in the country. Leagues have been formed, in marketing areas such as Portland and Wisconsin, enabling serious dart players to play on a

regular basis against many different challengers.

Arachnid's operator in the Rockford area, TBI Games Unlimited, has recently been sponsoring tournaments four nights per week drawing an average of fifteen to eighteen teams each night.

In late October there will be a \$75,000 tournament as part of the \$400,000 Tournament Games Spectacular event (see center section of Players Guide for details).

## DARTS ANYONE?

by Karen Wright

Sam Zammato, 33, is one of the premiere Tournament Mark Darts players in the Northern Illinois area. A dart player for a total of seven years and a Tournament Mark Darts player for three, he first became interested in the game while serving in the Air Force in England.

When asked what the main differences are between standardized steel tip darts and the plastic tip Tournament Mark Darts he commented that the actual weight of the dart and the larger Mark Darts bullseye were the only differentiating factors.

Zummato has done exceptionally well this past year. At a tournament held at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago in May, he took 1st place in both the four man team category, as well as in Open Doubles.

In giving a few tips to new players, Sam said, "Always throw your darts with confidence. When shooting for the bull, always aim for the top of it. Concentration is a big percentage of the game." Zummato summed it all up by saying, "It takes dedication and practice to be good, and in darts, anybody can be a champion."

## TOURNAMENT MARK DARTS HITS PORTLAND MARKET

by John Dinges

Tournament Mark Darts, the electronic version of darts, is the newest sport to generate excitement in the Portland area. The number of players is steadily increasing throughout the city, making the first ever Mark Darts League a success. With the current League season coming to a close, the players are looking forward to the playoffs. Besides team results being decided, prizes will be awarded to the individuals who scored the most "hat tricks" and "three in a bed" during the season.

With the continued support of the distributors and sponsoring locations, Tournament Mark Darts is sure to grow in popularity as more players discover this exciting new sport.



Arachnid President Paul Beall and champion dart thrower Sam Zummato line up for a friendly game.



# Second Quarter

TOURNAMENT SOCCER

## REGIONAL UPDATES

### LONG ISLAND

by Don Greco

Long Island is currently the hot spot in the country for local foosball action. With leagues, weekly draws, and a special program established by The Foosball Palace and Foosball Palace East, Sunshine Game Room and both Foosball Worlds, competition is at an all time high.

Phil Simineri and I, both affiliated with the Foosball Palace in Brentwood, N.Y., had the opportunity to fly to Los Angeles to compete in the tournaments held at the Hollywood Palladium in February. These tournaments were specifically held to film the foosball and tournament sequences for the upcoming foosball movie, "Longshot." On the final day of tournaments, through a lot of hard work and perseverance, we took first place in Novice Doubles. That last day made the whole trip worthwhile; not in money, but in pride.

Northeast and new England foosers get ready to get down on the browns at The Foosball Palace's \$1500 foosball tournament to be held on October 9, 10 and 11. For further information, directions and flyers, call (516) 273-9610.

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

by Brendan Flaherty

If you've ever played in a local Southern California Tourney, you know that competition is the name of the game, and a good time is the Golden Rule. You can Beach-it during the day, and Foos-it at night.

Ben Rivera and Gregg (AKA "Jeep") Perrie are still very dominant players here, but are being challenged by other Top Notchers, Barry Albina, Bill Cavanaugh, Dave Shimoka and others too numerous to mention.

### Results of James Games \$400 Tourney:

Doubles: 1st - Craig Plant/Brendan Flaherty

Singles: 1st - Ben Rivera

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Ben Rivera received a cut on his hand that **bled**--contrary to popular belief, he is NOT a machine!!
- At a recent tournament at the Hollywood Palladium, Leif Garrett told Tim (Zeke) Burns that he had a pretty good pull shot. Zeke told Leif that he was a pretty good actor!

P.S. Look for Kathy Brainard's article on foosball in the Premiere Issue of Normal Times Magazine!!!

### TEXAS

by Pat Goff

Foosball in Texas is definitely holding its own. With foosball booming in Corpus Christi, and Bring-Your-Partner tournaments at locations such as Milo Butterfingers in Dallas and the Emporium in Arlington, local actions is hopping.

The Texas State Championships, sponsored by Star Games, were held at The Showdown in Fort Worth, March 7th and 8th. It appeared that there was a home town advantage as Ernie Rascon and Jim Frick from Fort Worth took first place in Open Doubles and Lane Hunnicutt, also from the Fort Worth area, walked away with the Singles title. Congrats to all winners! Anyone needing upcoming tournament information should feel free to call me at (214) 340-1355.

### PORLAND

by John Dinges

It's business as usual when it comes to foosball in Portland, Oregon. The Keg-n-I Tavern is presently the center

of foosball action with two \$100 Draw-Your-Partners Sunday and Wednesday of every week. You can also bet that tough competition is inevitable when Portland's best players and upcoming Novices get together to compete for a guaranteed \$200 the last Sunday of every month.

As well as local tournaments, Portland had leagues sponsored by both the Oregon Foosball Association and the newly formed Indoor Team Sports.

Foosball in Portland remains as competitive as ever with prospects for future promotions looking extremely promising.

### UTAH

by Laurie Keith

Foosball is alive and well in Salt Lake City thanks to the continued efforts of Randy Taylor and Mike Sierra. To keep things rolling around here they activated a unique point system that will carry over a four month period. The "Farmer's Daughter" and "Better Days" are the two main locations where tournament action is taking place. The "Farmer's Daughter" has a Bring-Your-Partner on Tuesday evenings and a DYP on Sunday afternoons, with singles, goalie war, and mixed doubles on alternating Sunday's throughout the next four months.

At the finish, the top eight men and four women who have accumulated the most points from both locations will play off for more money and trophies. Point leaders as of this writing are Randy Taylor, Mike Sierra, Nick Bourdos, Cody Johnson, Jim Sierra, Steve Gardner, Tony Humphries, Curt Cooper, Lorraine Quayle, Cary Thornwell, Darla Quigley and Laurie Keith.

This entire program has created incentive and genuine enthusiasm among the regular players and generated a huge increase in the number of new Salt Lake City Novices.

## WISCONSIN

by Ray Dunbar

"The Wild Turkey" in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a showcase for Tournament Games products, was the site of a very successful foosball tournament held on April 25th. The event was cosponsored by Hastings Distributing and the Wisconsin Foosball Players Association.

There were 19 Singles players and 21 of the top Open Doubles teams in the state in attendance typifying the outstanding competitive action enjoyed by players and spectators alike.

First place in Singles and also taking top honors in Open Doubles was one of Chicago's finest, Don Chalifoux. Congrats to Don for a super job!!

All in all, it was a successful and fun tournament. Everyone involved with the promotion on all levels should be congratulated for a job well done.

Look out Portland . . . Move over Minneapolis . . . Here comes Wisconsin!!

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

by Joe Bergin

Northern California has come alive with foos events. Two weekly \$100 DYP's are held Thursdays at Scandia Fun Center in Sacramento and Saturdays at The Great Entertainer in Concord.

There were two \$700 Bring-Your-Partners held at Sacramento's Scandia with outstanding success. Thor Donovan and Roalde Singopoli took first place honors on the February 21st tourney while Bruce Welton and Victor Fong walked away with first at the tournament on March 28th. Congratulations to both teams!!

This is only the beginning of Northern Cal's foosball promotions . . . Watch for Sacramento Super Singles!!

For information or to be put on our mailing list, contact: Smokin' Joe Bergin 4626 Sycamore Ave., Sacramento, CA 95841.

# NBC'S GAMES PEOPLE PLAY SPOTLIGHT FOOSBALL

In the past, foosball has sorely lacked the kind of national coverage that would help propel it into the public limelight. It has been a rough road indeed to move away from the stereotyped barroom image to one of a respected sport. It appears, however, that the surface has finally been broken.

Late last July, due to the efforts of Tournament Soccer, top professionals participated in NBC's new look sports show "Games People Play" at the Kings Island Amusement Park outside of Cincinnati, Ohio. Not only were these individuals eight of the most highly respected players in the game today, but they also represented a geographically diversified cross section of the country. Participating were Mike Bowers from Colorado, Doug Furry and Jim Wiswell from Minnesota, Johnny Lott, currently from California, Bev Froom from Oregon, Rochelle Creegan from Washington, Carrie Crowell from Kansas, and Maggie Tolisano from Florida.

The show's hour long format included a "King of the Hill" competition, hosted by Johnny Bench and Donna Devarone, that varied weekly from the likes of arm wrestling to mechanical bull riding to a two segmentation "mini" singles foosball tournament.

Furry, Wiswell, Bowers and Lott played off to see who would meet the women's winner from between Froom, Creegan, Tolisano and Crowell to culminate in a "Battle of the Sexes" finals.

In the finals of the mens portion of competition, Doug Furry was victorious over 1980 Nationals Singles Champion, Johnny Lott. Rochelle Creegan advanced in the women's competition over Carrie Crowell with some blistering bank shots from goalie.

Creegan and Furry played off to see who would be the unprecedented winner of the "King of the Hill" title. Playing the kind of singles she is known

for, Rochelle threw a real scare into Doug with what looked like an upset in the making. In the end, however, Doug held on against Rochelle's challenge to be crowned the first ever "King of the Hill" foosball champ.

When asked what it was like to be involved in a foosball first, Furry commented that being filmed for national television and the thrill of taking the competition rivaled that of winning a national title. He was also impressed, as were all of the players who participated, with the overwhelming response and interest they received from Johnny Bench, Donna Devarone and everyone involved in the production.

Due to this kind of media breakthrough, the future of the sport looks extremely bright. These major exposures, coupled with foosball's strong base of competitive play, should propel us into the long overdue spotlight.

## 1980 SINGLES CHAMPION AUTHORS FOOSBALL BOOK

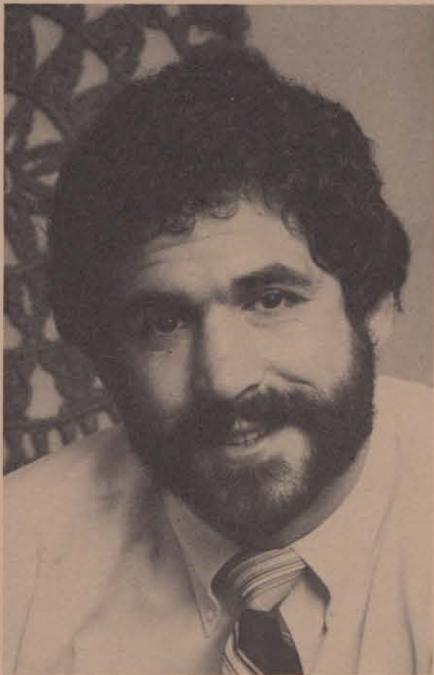
Johnny Lott could not have chosen a better time for his victory in the 1980 World Championships in Singles. The Championship Title has provided a great publicity tool in the promotion of his book, *The Complete Book of Foosball*. The original concept was Lott's brainchild, but with the editorial help of Tournament Games Quarterly Feature Editor, Kathy Brainard, the idea was quickly transformed into reality.

The book is currently available at most major bookstores. If they do not carry the book, or if it is out of stock, the bookstore can order it through Contemporary Books in Chicago; or you can buy autographed copies from an ad in this publication.



# Half

## ATARI MARKETING EDITORIALS . . .



Frank Ballouz, Vice President of Marketing

The ATARI® \$50,000.00 World Championships are finally a reality. After almost a year in planning, we've teamed up with friends at Tournament Games to produce an exciting new concept in competitive video game play. It will be part of the incredible Tournament Games Spectacular \$400,000.00 weekend to be held in Chicago, October 29 through November 1.

The World Championships is the first time a national tournament has been organized around coin-operated video games. Perhaps more importantly, it is a symbol of an on-going commitment to our players, to bring you the best, most innovative entertainment on earth.

ATARI is excited about the Championships and fully committed to its

support because it is really your program. It's a program that will not only challenge you, but will be worth big prizes in cash and merchandise.

In the past year or two, video games, especially ATARI games, have come of age. They are making an ever-increasing positive impact on the way the world plays. Fast-moving advances in technology creatively harnessed to innovative game design have made it possible to offer new game ideas that appeal to a wider variety of people - young, old, male and female - than ever before. Popularity that has surpassed all other forms of coin-operated entertainment.

It's in recognition of this popularity and the vital importance of players like you who have made it happen that helped us decide the time was right for a national event of this scope.

The ATARI World Championships in Chicago will culminate in an exciting series of Open Singles, Women's Singles and Special Events with prizes awarded in many different categories.

But that's not all. Although the Championship Tournament is open to any player for an entry fee of \$60.00, you can enter free if you hold an ATARI Entry Certificate.

How do you get one? It's easy and fun. It's one of the reasons we say that the ATARI Tournament program really begins in your home town. At your favorite recreation center, at an official ATARI Tournament location. Here's how it works:

Starting now and continuing for the next few weeks, your tournament location will be offering a series of five double elimination tournaments or five "high score" contest periods to promote the program and give you a chance to qualify for a Championship Entry Certificate. These local tournaments are important to you for a couple of reasons. First, by competing in a tournament you have an opportunity to enter the Championships free

if you win. Second, you'll be playing and sharpening your skills through practice on our latest videos.

Games that include the fantastic new Asteroids Deluxe™, the newest generation of Asteroids™ that's even more challenging, more realistic; and the exciting Battlezone™, a super-tank battle that dares you to destroy enemy tanks, buzz bombs and other bad guy targets. With our unique QuadraScan™ TV graphics and radar warning feature, you'll feel like General Patton in the 25th Century.

Plus current video games including Red Baron™, a realistic new video flying simulation that puts you in the cockpit of WWI biplane battling the dangerous Red Baron in the skies over France. And new Warlords™. You're in the Middle Ages defending your castle against fireballs launched by a hot-breathed dragon. You are also trying to pulverize your opponent's castle by bouncing the fireballs off your shield into his masonry. The Atari game that will be used in the finals will be the great new hit, Centipede.

Possible free entry to the ATARI World Championships, play action under tournament conditions, a chance to up your skill level to Championship caliber are some of the benefits from getting into the local contest. Best of all, they're a lot of fun. So go for it. We'll see you in Chicago.

Good luck!

Frank Ballouz



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# Time

ATARI



## ATARI EDITORIALS . . .

As Frank said, the ATARI® World Championships are a high point in our on-going program of involvement with players, a continuing dedication to creating games that appeal to a wider variety of potential players - including women.

As a result of widespread exposure in national media, more unique play features, special effects, color and a variety of game themes that offer more universal appeal, ATARI games are enjoying a higher level of popularity among women players than at any other time in video game history. Women are being attracted and challenged right along with men by the competition and excitement.

Women today are a very important segment of our player population. Their numbers are significant and growing.

Our player surveys and test research have repeatedly confirmed what we already knew - that video games are no longer the exclusive domain of male players. It has shown that women are strong competitors, that you enjoy the challenge, the social benefits of playing video games, and the thrill of using your skill to master those frustrating blips.

The popularity that has brought ATARI games into more and more different kinds of locations has meant that you've had more opportunities to discover how much fun these games really are. We're happy about that because we work hard to design features into all of our games that will appeal to both men and women.

That same popularity is also the reason that our ATARI World Championships in Chicago as well as the tournaments being held in your local areas have dedicated special categories and events to women players. You can enter Open Events and compete with both men and other women, or you can enter the special Women's Singles events. There's really something for

everybody in these tournaments, no matter what level of skill you have. And it's all fun.

If you haven't played ATARI games very much before, the local qualifying tournaments are an ideal chance to find out what you've been missing. You can team up with other women, your boyfriend or husband, or just use the opportunity to meet and enjoy new friends. ATARI players are great people to be around and you won't be able to resist the fantastic excitement of video game action once you get into it.

If you already are a regular player, you know what we mean. Asteroids Deluxe™, Battlezone™, Red Baron and Warlords™ offer so many new challenges and enjoyment they would be great to play even if you were not in a tournament. The added incentive of

tournament competition, though, has got to be the ultimate video adventure. If you have ever competed in foosball, pool, table hockey or darts contests, you have a small sample of the excitement that the ATARI World Championships can offer.

I urge you to join the fun. Enter the tournaments at your local game place. Take your own shot at winning a free entry to the Chicago finals. As Frank points out, it is a chance to save \$60.00. But beyond that, it is an opportunity to identify yourself as a winner, to prove to yourself you have what it takes. And it may also be a chance to discover something you should not have been missing.

So, go get 'em. We're looking forward to having you represent us in Chicago.

Mariann Layne



Mariann Layne, Marketing Services



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Look for the  
1981 Players Guide in  
the center section  
of this issue!

# In Memoriam



The greatness of any sport is dependent upon the quality of its greatest players.

Jim Wiswell, the greatest player in the history of Foosball, brought a quality to the game that allows the sport unlimited latitude for greatness.

PETER J. KARES presents  
A GREENTREE PRODUCTION OF

# LONG SHOT

starring

LEIF GARRETT LINDA MANZ  
RALPH SEYMOUR ZOE CHAUVEAU

Produced by GARY M. GOODMAN and BARRY ROSEN

Executive Producer PETER J. KARES

Directed by E. W. SWACKHAMER

Screenplay by RUSSELL MANZATT and DONALD J. PAONESSA

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*The best of friends  
... a chance to realize their dreams  
... in the biggest tournament of all*

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# Third Quarter

TOURNAMENT HOCKEY

## TABLE HOCKEY PROFESSIONAL PROFILES

Table Hockey's greatest players exhibit a style and approach to the game that is distinctive and unique to each one. The ones who have climbed to the top of the national rankings are fiercely competitive, awesomely talented, and yes, they love the sport itself.

Five of the top players in the game today will be spotlighted in this issue of Tournament Games Quarterly.

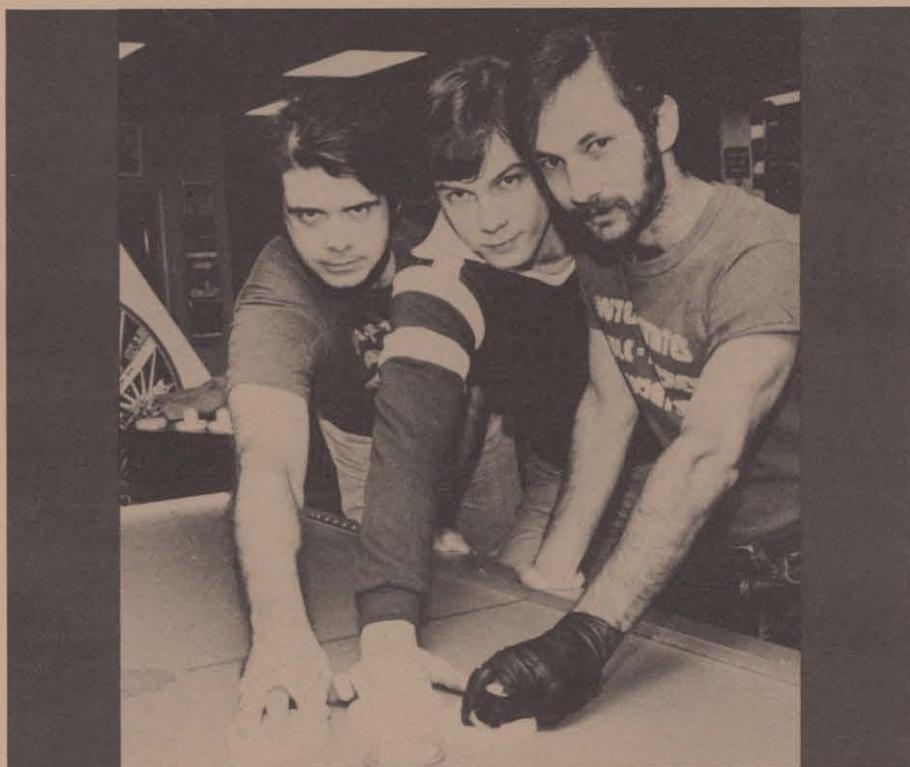
**#1. Jesse Douty, Philadelphia.** The 25 year old Douty has won every national tournament held over the past three years. Introduced detailed analysis and systematic play into table hockey. Keeps an extensive notebook on other players and his own strategies. He instantly spots defensive weaknesses that any other play would miss. His deliberate style of play involves "setting up" each shot and shooting many off-goal shots to confuse his opponent's defensive reactions. A great pressure player, Douty lost his #1 ranking last summer to Philadelphia's smooth-shooting Joe Campbell (one of table hockey's all-time greats, currently unranked). The score was 4 sets to 3. Undaunted, Jesse came back two months later to regain the crown by ripping his former mentor, 4 sets to 0. Jesse's "diamond defense" and high-top mallet grip have been imitated by many. Supremely confident, "The Kid" never denies that he's the best; but then given his impressive record, why should he?

**#2. Robert Hernandez, Houston.** Only 20 years old Hernandez' rise to table hockey glory has been swift. Cheered on by his two table-hockey-playing brothers, Hernandez trounced Arnold and Dubuisson, then squeezed by Robbins enroute to a 2nd place finish in the December National held at Action Family Fun & Games in Houston. Hernandez has undoubtedly the quickest wrist in table hockey. His re-

lease is so sudden that the puck seems to be in your goal before his hand moves. He plays a fairly quick-paced game, has excellent puck control, and often "hits a moving puck." Tremendously accurate on "over-the-mallet" outside banks, Robert has been playing only three or four years, but his game really came together in the summer of 1980 when he beat Phil Arnold to win the Houston championship. One by one, Hernandez has picked off his formerly unbeatable foes, including Ken Fohringer, Mike Dickstein, Paul Marshall, Rolf Moore, Arnold, Dubuisson and Robbins. Hernandez keeps a record of every game he has ever played.

**#3. Mark Robbins, Boulder, Colorado.** The 30-year-old Robbins has played in every national tourn-

ament since 1974, and is active in table hockey organizing. Lost to Hernandez by one point in the last nationals. Also won the '79 Colorado and Texas Championships. Robbins switched to a back-grip a year ago following a serious finger injury, and his game is beginning to achieve its full power. Robbins' motto is "Be creative, spontaneous, and hit a moving puck." He has a very tough intuitive-reactive defense. Uncanny ability at times to read his opponents' shots. Robbins' array of banks, straights and forehands are woven into a quick and fluid pattern designed to throw an element of chaos into the game (and the other guy's defense). Although Robbins' pace is very fast, he seldom plays a continuous volley game like that of Houston's Don Metzler. Along with Phil Arnold,



Pictured above: Phil Arnold, Jesse Douty and Mark Robbins.

Robbins is a master at slicing the puck into the goal as it flies out toward the centerline. Says Robbins: "I love to soar, amid the ethereal heights of the Table."

**#4. Bob Dubuisson, Boulder.** 31 years old, Dubuisson is a tough competitor with devastating variety of shots. He plays a fairly deliberate "set-up" game, not quite so slow as Douty. He has superb puck control. Of late he has been varying his pace and can play the quick game as well. Dubuisson narrowly lost to Robbins in the '79 Dark Horse Colorado championships, but he held the Colorado #1 ranking for a year, defeating Robbins twice in challenge matches. Bob is a master at the use of spin, and has a great "cut-shot." He varies his defense a lot and may have the best "out defense" in table hockey. Dubuisson shocked Douty in the round-robin of the '79 nationals by taking 2 of 3 games from him. Douty is anxious for revenge, but so far they have not met in competition. Dubuisson is also a keen strategist who can often out-think or out-finesse the other player, and easily spots defensive weaknesses. He is a very consistent player.

**#5. Phil Arnold, Houston.** The 33-year-old Arnold is an explosive and entertaining player who was runner-up to Douty in three straight tournaments. His epic long matches with Douty rank alongside those of Borg vs. McEnroe. Arnold founded the U.S. Air-Table-Hockey Association and has been a prime mover in table hockey's resurgence. Arnold has the most powerful cut shot in table hockey and devastating deep banks. Plays a controlled but fast-paced game with occasional bursts of overwhelming power and fiery energy. Arnold recently changed grips and mallets after "slipping" to 5th place in the last national. He has pursued Douty for years, but now must overtake Hernandez, his former student. Along with Robbins, Arnold shares a love for the free-flowing wildness of table hockey at its best, in contrast to the "boring tediousness" of the deliberate, slow-paced game.

## TABLE HOCKEY: POWER, STRATEGY AND GENIUS

by Phil Arnold

Why Table Hockey? What is it about this sport that holds players spell-bound? When we first discovered Table Hockey, we had no idea that the table contained the unlimited potential for hand-to-hand combat. It really all began by knocking the puck back and forth for fun. However, after playing for a few weeks, an amazing thing happened - something unexpected took place that neither the beginners back in the early 70's nor the table manufacturers had ever thought possible. The table came alive as a tremendously competitive and unique sport. We saw clearly that with practice, Table Hockey could be played on a very high level of intense and fierce combat.

The table revealed itself to us in three major ways. First it showed us power. Two players battle each other back and forth - each testing the other's reflex and stamina with incredibly powerful shots.

The second level of play it exhibited was strategy. We began to realize that power by itself was not enough. We saw that the sport was complex enough to permit the development of carefully thought out tactics and strategies. It is no place for the slap-happy player. Each shot, each volley must be done

with reason. Such decisions must be made in a matter of split seconds as the puck zooms around the table at speeds of over 100 mph!

Not only did the table enable us to use power and strategy, it also lifted us to moments of what I would call "genius." In all sports there are a few who have been able to transcend beyond the physical limitations of their sport - Dr. J., Orr, Ali, seem to compete on another level of which most athletes know nothing about. Table Hockey offers this kind of experience to the dedicated player. It provides an arena in which to experience a dramatic encounter with his opponent and himself.

Several players formed the U.S. Air Hockey Association in 1974 because we wanted to share with others what we had found in Table Hockey. The Association is open to all players everywhere, with divisions in major cities from Philadelphia to Los Angeles. It seeks to fully serve the table and players by sanctioning tournaments, ranking players, codifying rules, and publishing the USAA newsletter TABLE TALK. Write to Box 25338, Houston, TX 77005 or call (713) 665-3159 for further information. See you on the table at the \$25,000 tournament in Chicago. (See center section of the PLAYERS GUIDE for further details)



Two of the top table hockey players compete in the 1980 Table Hockey Championships held at Action Family Fun and Games in Houston, Texas.



# Fourth Quarter

## TOURNAMENT EIGHT BALL



**Lee Peppard**  
President of Tournament Games, Inc.

Each issue of Tournament Games Quarterly will feature an interview with a manufacturer, distributor or operator from within the coin machine industry who, in the opinion of the editor, holds a position that is of critical interest to the player. This issue features Lee Peppard, President of Tournament Games, Inc., in an interview focusing on the Tournament Eight Ball program.

**TGQ:** How will the pool shooters of America benefit from the Tournament Eight Ball (TEB) program and what it means to the average pool player?

**LEE:** There are many questions about TEB and Tournament Games in general that can be answered by looking at the Tournament Soccer (TS) programs of the past.

When we came on the foosball scene, it was unknown in most markets. Seven years later, TS has clearly established a uniform acceptance of foosball as a respected, leisure sport. We did this by recognizing the player as the primary advertising medium and putting on approx-

imately three million dollars worth of tournaments.

By applying this same advertising philosophy to pool, the TEB program will bring a direct financial benefit to the player via tournaments — tournaments that focus on the broad base of everyday, casual players.

**TGQ:** The TS program of the past developed an elite group of pro players that has basically dominated the promotions in recent years. Will this be the case with the TEB program?

**LEE:** TS had no media credibility when we started. We needed to create focus points for the media — superstars and super events. We still need the TS pro today, but we are shifting the focus of our TS program to include the casual player.

With regard to TEB, the last thing you need in a pool promotion today is a program that focuses on the pro. They have already established the credentials of expertise that we needed to establish in TS.

The TEB program, by its prize money structure and qualification procedures, is definitely focused on the upper level of novice players. Whether it's darts, table hockey, pool, or foosball, our promotional programs are committed to reach a broad base of players.

**TGQ:** You've described the TS and TEB programs as being player-motivated, correct?

**LEE:** That is correct.

**TGQ:** If that is true, how do you explain the apparent conflict found in the case of the "player-motivated" TS program pushing to move foosball from 25¢ to 50¢?

**LEE:** We accept total responsibility for trying to push the foosball market to 50¢, but that does not mean that our programs are not player-motivated. Let me explain what I mean by that term.

First off, we are a business. I do not want to mislead any player by trying to say that there is any function for our company's existence other than to make a long-term profit. When I say we are player-motivated, I mean several things: 1) We are responsive to the players. We communicate with them

and know what they want in the way of tournaments. We know how to deliver a tournament that will provide the ultimate in satisfaction and prestige to the player. 2) We have total respect for the position of the player in the market. We believe if the player values the Tournament Games trademarks, we will be successful in the market. 3) We try to structure our marketing programs based on that respect. We do not go out and buy ads in newspapers to create a demand for our products. Instead, we run events that are beneficial to the player and use that as the means to create product demand.

When I say that we are player-motivated, I am saying that we have a clear-cut recognition of the ability of the player to control the market — the manufacturers do not control it, the distributors do not control it, the operators do not control it, and the locations do not control it.

Besides the pure business point of view, we as a company are obviously emotionally committed to the player. You cannot burn for 18 hours a day running World Championships without having an emotional commitment to the player block.

However, there are times when we conflict with the player and what the player sees as being in his best interest. I have no problem discussing with any player our decision, which cost TS a great deal of money, to push for 50¢ foosball.

The continued presence of a foosball table in a location is contingent upon the profit generated versus the square footage it occupies. With the inflationary costs of running a location, and purchasing and maintaining the equipment, something had to be done. Love of the game will not keep any piece of equipment on location.

**TGQ:** What about 50¢ pool?

**LEE:** TEB is at 50¢, but there are still many tables out there that are not. Again, I believe that for there to be a healthy pool table market, 50¢ pool is a necessity; and a healthy pool table market is in the players' best interest.

The end answer is, if the players

keep foosball and pool at 25¢, you'll see fewer and fewer tables on location. As I said, equipment will not stay on location out of love. We are talking about leisure sports that have profit requirements.

**TGQ:** What is the role of the pool players in your type of marketing programs?

**LEE:** A partnership - I need them just as I needed, and still need, the TS players. I want them to be our partner in our marketing effort.

Why should they? Because our history demonstrates that we give back to the market, and thus to the player. We deliver creative programs, we deliver major tournaments that bring prestige to the sport. We return directly to the player through our promotions — specifically \$100,000.00 in cash and prizes in the upcoming TEB World Championships. For the player that has been our partner—the player that is supporting a TEB location, we have given him a shot at a piece of that \$100,000.00 without the player paying one penny of entry fee.

That is why a player should walk into a location and say, "I want to play on a TEB table." I am saying very clearly to the players - TEB, TS, TMD, TH players - that our promotions and the promotional benefit that they deliver to the players will grow at the same rate that the players, as our partners, help us to grow in the market.

**TGQ:** Major tournaments are exciting, but they happen only once or twice a year and are often a long distance away. What does TEB offer on a day-to-day basis?

**LEE:** When a TEB table goes into a location, it comes with a Kick-Off tournament kit. The kit is a free promotion with a prize package consisting of four quality jointed cues and two TEB belt buckles. TGI is the only manufacturer that has delivered directly to the location, on behalf of the players, an instant tournament.

By delivering the Kick-Off kit to a location we stimulate ongoing tournament programs. We deliver a promotion that is so manageable, so easy to

implement and one that clearly demonstrates to the location the benefits of promotion. With these promotions and a little player support the location will become a positive promotional force.

TGI makes waves. As a group of people, we have traditionally caused excitement and upheaval in our industry. I am not saying that that is our function, but we do make things happen. We have not only performed, but we have made other companies perform as a reaction. We have been the catalyst in causing other manufacturers to start looking at their promotional responsibilities and that alone is certainly a plus for the player.

We have traditionally been willing to give all of the support material, free, to operators and locations wanting to run TS or TEB programs. We are running two world class events a year, and we also have a staff of talented people that can take those events down to the street and create regional involvement.

By teaching the operator and the location the benefit of being promotion-involved, which we do through the TEB program, we deliver to the player ongoing local promotions.

**TGQ:** With or without promotions, a player's concern has to be the playing characteristics of the table. How does the TEB table compare to the other tables in the market?

**LEE:** We have in TGI not only a desire to achieve perfection in our promotions, but we also have tremendous product pride. As our TS table exemplifies, that means first and foremost, delivering the ultimate table to the players. I will contend, beyond a doubt, supported by the vast majority of the great players in the foosball world, that TS is the ultimate player's table. Over a period of years, we have driven ourselves to achieve that objective and although we do not anticipate any major changes, we are still keyed to continue product improvement from a player's point of view.

Today our TEB table is as good, or better, than any other table on the market. However, by the nature of our company, we are not content to leave it at that. We will continue to listen to

the players and to implement the changes required to achieve the ultimate characteristics in the TEB table.

We listen to what the player wants, not only in the promotion, but also in the product; and we are able and willing to respond.

**TGQ:** For many years you were single-product-involved; and recently you have gone through a major expansion period. Is your expansion now complete?

**LEE:** Our expansion, adding the pool table, hockey table, dart game, and now our involvement with Atari, was a conscious growth. Our products are similar—they are staples of the industry that have proved their staying power.

Our product expansion is probably complete. The only other step within the coin machine industry that is conceivable, would be the involvement of a pinball game in our World Championships - making it the coin machine Olympics.

For a period of years we demonstrated a complete commitment to one product - TS. Now we have a total commitment to a new project; and that project is no longer one product but five - the four TGI products and the Atari involvement. We have progressed into a new era at Tournament Games.

**TGQ:** What are the future promotional plans for the TGI family of products?

**LEE:** Our promotional commitment to the player, to the location, and to the operator is for two major events a year - a Fall tournament defined as the Nationals, and a late Spring tournament defined as the World Championships, both Chicago-based. The growth in our sales results will be reflected in the growth of these two events.

We also plan to expand our in-house ability to propagate regional and local promotions through the availability of our printed promotional material and our advisory talent.

**Today we are totally committed to tournaments as the backbone of our marketing method and to the player as the primary beneficiary of that marketing philosophy.**

# Post-Game Show...

(continued from page 1)

The movie was produced by G. G. Productions Ltd., and stars Leif Garrett, Ralph Seymour, Linda Manz, and Zoe Chauveau. In the film, Paul (Leif Garrett) and Leroy (Ralph Seymour) are partners in foosball as well as the best of friends. Paul has turned down a college soccer scholarship because he wants to become a professional soccer player in Europe. The scheme is to win the \$50,000 first place prize in the Foosball World Championships to get them to Europe to realize Paul's dream.

When Leroy breaks his hand in a jealous rage over a hotblooded cheerleader, their boss recommends a kid named Max as a replacement. Max turns out to be a she (Linda Manz), a 14 year old, mixed up, punk rocker and a hotshot on the foosball table.

Ultimately the four kids wind up in Paul's truck headed for the tournament but not without major complications. The pressure is on and so is the foosball tournament!!

Johnny Lott, 1980 Singles Champion, was the technical advisor to "Longshot." When asked to comment about the film, he was quoted as saying, "Most people are somewhat skeptical about the film's validity and reality, or just about its dealings with foosball. Having worked on the picture on a daily basis, I can honestly say that "Longshot" IS foosball. From the opening

scenes at a local arcade to the climatic ending at the World Championships, "Longshot" is completely a foosball movie. The shots and action on the table are exciting and some of the best, if not THE best, foosball footage ever captured on film. I personally had the opportunity to double all of the more difficult trick shots and maneuvers for Leif, who I should also mention, actually learned how to play foosball for this movie! Several other top pros - Mike Bowers, Tim Burns, Greg Perrie, Ben Rivera - also are featured in the picture and doubled shots and passes. I am confident that foosball players of all levels will enjoy the film and be amazed at its authenticity!"

The actual tournament scenes and foosball sequences were filmed at a staged tournament at the Hollywood Palladium on February 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Look for the release of the movie "Longshot" at local theatres across the country.

## PLAYER AWARENESS THANKS TO TGI POSTER REPRESENTATIVES

The concept of the TGI Poster Rep broadens players awareness that cannot be generated by Tournament Games, our distributors, or by any other means. This is due primarily to your accessibility in reaching the core

level of players across the country.

For this reason we would like to express our sincere appreciation and offer a hearty round of applause to all of you who displayed enthusiasm and made the commitment to be the primary distribution source of tournament information in your local area.

With the continued growth of our company, we would like to see the scope of this program expanded. Any one interested in becoming a TGI Poster Rep should call Tournament Games at **1-800-426-8897**.

## SILCO WEST ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM

Silco West, Inc., one of the country's largest privately held vendors, has announced the formation of an in-house promotional department. Johnny Lott, current World Singles Foosball Champion and author of **The Complete Book of Foosball**, has recently joined Silco and will be in charge of the program.

He says he will enjoy the challenge of the job and is looking forward to developing a program which will offer Silco's customers fresh, innovative promotions specifically designed to keep pace with the rapidly growing player interest of the 80's.

Silco's first promotional endeavor is already completed — the California State Video Games Championships featured competition on Atari's Asteroids.

Players or locations wishing more information should contact **JOHNNY LOTT** at (213) 988-7000.

## TOURNAMENT GAMES QUARTERLY

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**ASSOCIATE EDITOR:** Kathy Brainard

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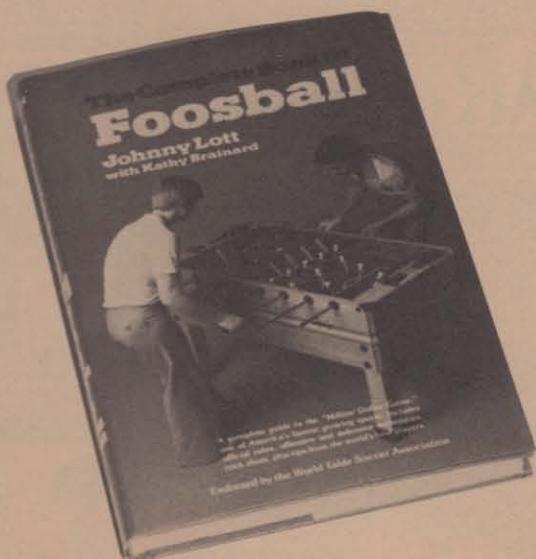


On location with the movie "Longshot"

Photo by Randi Dickerson

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